

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A sponge adapted to clean grout in a tile surface that includes a plurality of tiles disposed in spaced apart relation to one another, and having a strip of grout disposed between contiguous tiles, each strip of grout forming an elongate concavity of predetermined depth relative to the respective surfaces of the tiles, comprising:

a main body having a solid, generally parallelepiped structure that includes a flat top wall, a flat bottom wall, a pair of flat, longitudinally-extending side walls, and a pair of flat, transversely extending side walls;

a ~~first~~ plurality of longitudinally extending, parallel[[,]] convexities formed in said flat bottom wall;

said main body and said convexities being formed of a resilient, flexible material;

said convexities entering into and conforming to said elongate concavities when said sponge is in use;

each convexity of said plurality of convexities having a predetermined height relative to said flat bottom surface;

said predetermined height slightly exceeding said predetermined depth of each elongate concavity;

whereby said sponge is adapted to clean grout between tiles ~~is cleaned~~.

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (original) The sponge of claim 1, further comprising:

said sponge being formed of a reticulated polyester.

5. (original) The sponge of claim 4, further comprising:

said reticulated polyester having a density of about 1.6 to 2.0 pounds per cubic foot.

6. (original) The sponge of claim 1, further comprising:

said sponge adapted to be releasably attached to a distal end of an elongate handle.

7. (currently amended) A sponge adapted to clean strips of grout between contiguous tile surfaces, each strip of grout forming an elongate concavity having a predetermined depth, comprising:

a main body having a solid, generally parallelepiped structure that includes a flat top wall, a flat bottom wall, a pair of flat, longitudinally-extending side walls, and a pair of flat, transversely extending side walls;

a ~~first~~ plurality of curvilinear convexities formed in said flat bottom wall;

each curvilinear convexity of said plurality of curvilinear convexities having a predetermined height relative to said flat bottom wall;

said predetermined height of said each curvilinear convexity being slightly greater than said predetermined depth of said elongate concavities;

said main body and said curvilinear convexities being formed of a resilient, flexible material;

said curvilinear convexities entering into and conforming to said elongate concavities when said sponge is in use;

whereby said sponge is adapted to clean grout between tiles ~~is cleaned~~.

8. (original) The sponge of claim 7, further comprising:

said sponge being formed of a reticulated polyester.

9. (original) The sponge of claim 8, further comprising:

said reticulated polyester having a density of about 1.6 to 2.0 pounds per cubic foot.

10. (new) A sponge adapted to clean grout in a tile surface that includes a plurality of tiles disposed in spaced apart relation to one another, and having a strip of grout disposed between contiguous tiles, each strip of grout forming an elongate concavity relative to the respective surfaces of the tiles, comprising:

a main body having a solid, generally parallelepiped structure that includes a flat top wall, a flat bottom wall, a pair of flat, longitudinally-extending side walls, and a pair of flat, transversely extending side walls;

a first plurality of longitudinally extending, parallel convexities formed in said flat bottom wall;

said main body and said convexities being formed of a resilient, flexible material;

said convexities entering into and conforming to said elongate concavities when said sponge is in use;

each convexity of said first plurality of convexities having a first predetermined height relative to said flat bottom surface;

each elongate concavity formed by each strip of grout having a predetermined depth;

said first predetermined height slightly exceeding said predetermined depth;

a second plurality of longitudinally extending, parallel convexities formed in said flat bottom wall;

each convexity of said second plurality of convexities having a second predetermined height less than said first predetermined height of said convexities of said first plurality of convexities;

said convexities of said second plurality of convexities being formed of a resilient, flexible material;

said convexities of said second plurality of convexities entering into and conforming to said elongate concavities when said sponge is in use;

whereby said sponge is adapted to clean grout between tiles.